Provincial Parks.—In addition to the national parks throughout Canada administered by the Dominion Government, most of the provinces also maintain provincial parks for the protection of wild life and as recreational areas. Among the largest of these are the Algonquin Park (2,740 square miles) in Ontario, the Laurentides Park (3,565 square miles) in Quebec, and Tweedsmuir Park (approximately 5,400 square miles) in British Columbia.

Game and Scenery.—The resources of Canada from the standpoints of the sportsman and tourist are both unique and varied. Owing to the growth of tourist travel and its demands (the statistics of the tourist trade are dealt with in Chapter XVI as a phase of External Trade), great areas of uninhabited land have become accessible, and hitherto almost unknown parts may now be reached and traversed with ease. In the wooded and unsettled areas of every province there are many moose, deer, bear, and smaller game, while in the western parts of the Dominion there are also wapiti, caribou, mountain sheep, mountain goat, grizzly bear, and lynx. Mountain lion, or cougar, are found in British Columbia and in the mountains of Alberta, while in the Northwest and the Far North there still exist herds of buffalo and musk-ox, which, however, are given absolute protection by the Dominion Government.

Ruffed and spruce grouse are found in the wooded areas of Canada from coast to coast. Prairie chicken and Hungarian partridge inhabit the open prairies and the partly timbered areas of the three mid-western provinces. Franklin grouse are native to the mountains of the West and the ptarmigan, an Arctic grouse, lives in the treeless northern plains and is also found in the high mountains of Alberta and British Columbia.

Canada is the natural habitat of many kinds of waterfowl and it is difficult to imagine any finer field for the shot-gun sportsman than is afforded by many of the myriad lakes which form so large a feature of Canadian scenery. This is particularly true of the three mid-western provinces, where the lakes are of the shallow, surface type that furnishes the most abundant feed for waterfowl.

The valleys of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the broken lake country of northern Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, and Saskatchewan, as well as the mountain districts of British Columbia and Alberta, offer to the tourist, the hunter, and the fisherman new scenic effects and innumerable game preserves, and have won for the Dominion a reputation as a paradise for sportsmen and campers. And not only is this possible for those who travel by land; the series of lakes and rivers which form a network over the eastern part of the country particularly, has made water travel in smaller craft both feasible and attractive. Further, facilities for winter sports, the unusual attractions of winter scenery and the bracing though rigorous winter climate, have done much to add to the reputations of resorts formerly noted for their advantages in the summer season. In both Dominion and provincial parks, while angling is permitted; the hunting of game is forbidden, and the wild-life resources preserved. Elsewhere, however, there is available for the hunter, at proper seasons, a wealth of game species.